ALUMNI COLLEGE XXIII

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1. The Sistine Chapel: Art in the Service of the Renaissance Papacy

John Hunisak, Professor of History of Art and Architecture

The Sistine Chapel may possess the highest density of great art in the western world. Pope Sixtus IV constructed the building and commissioned its first cycle of frescoes, painted by Botticelli, Perugino, Pinturicchio, and others. Sixtus's nephew, Pope Julius II, chose Michelangelo to paint the ceiling. Michelangelo also painted the Last Judgment on the western wall behind the altar for Pope Paul III. In this citadel of papal authority every image had to convey theological orthodoxy, as well as artistic splendor. We will study this great ensemble of frescoes both visually and symbolically, using slides made after the recent cleaning.

2. Controversial Issues in Legal Psychology

Michelle McCauley, Assistant Professor of Psychology

Psychology is intertwined with a host of controversial contemporary legal issues: jury selection and decision-making in death penalty cases, child witnesses, repressed memory testimony, attitudes toward women as defendants or victims, juvenile offenders' understanding of the legal system, and the influence of race on verdicts. We will discuss these issues as we examine psychology's growing role in the American legal system and consider the strengths and limitations of psychological research.

3. Austen, Bronte, and Dickens: Three Novels

Robert Hill, Henry N. Hudson Professor of English

We will read (or re-read) and discuss three great 19th century novels: *Pride and Prejudice, Wuthering Heights,* and *Great Expectations*, along with viewing a movie of each in the evenings. The course will focus on the dark sides to these works, which may come as something of a shock, particularly Austen's "underworld" with her tempest in a teapot. Dickens directly addressed versions of that world, but only half knew what he was doing. Emily Bronte embraced all there is to know about violence, hatred, and vengeance.

"Always stimulating. Love the beauty of Vermont, the desire of people to keep learning, the friendships made."

4. Reading the Campus

Glenn Andres, Professor of History of Art and Architecture

American college campuses, whether Jeffersonian villages or cities beautiful, medieval cloisters or picturesque parks, embody American ideals and ambitions in architecture and planning. Middlebury richly reflects this cultural history made material. We will use this tradition, with Middlebury as our prime example, to explore issues in American architectural style and imagery, landscape, and planning from the colonial to the post-modern periods. Our exploration will include documents, anecdotes, visionary drawings, historic photos, walks, and building tours.

5. Environmentalism and Globalization at the Millennium

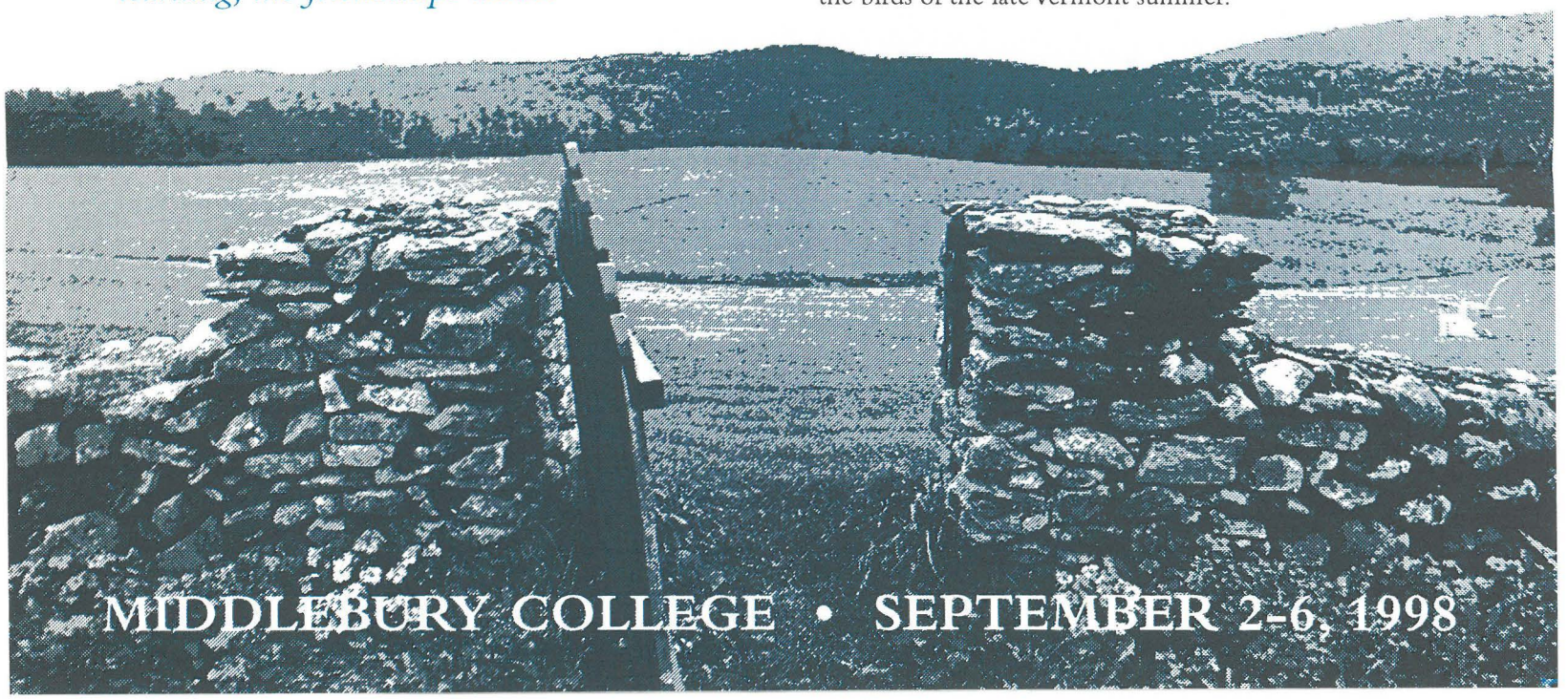
Sunder Ramaswamy, Associate Professor of Economics, and Stephen Trombulak, Albert D. Mead Professor of Biology

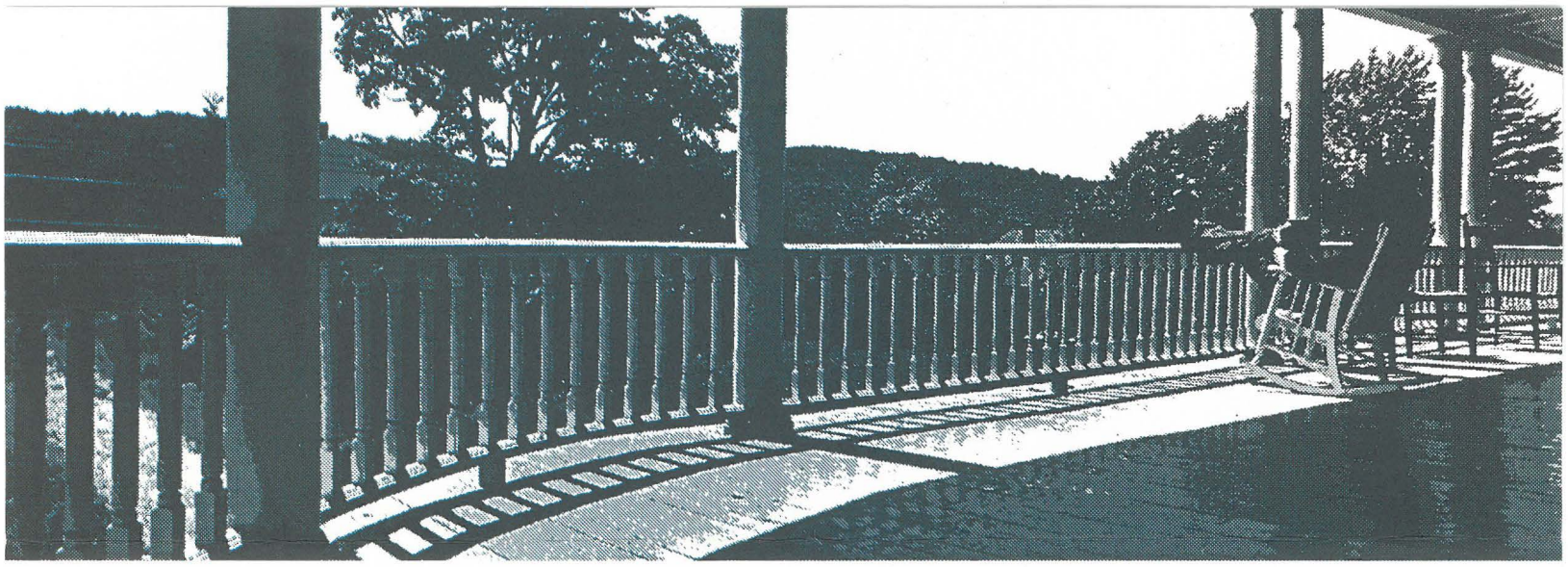
Many of the most pressing issues of our time involve interactions among economic, social, and biological concerns. Should we give first priority to economic growth or environmental protection when planning for the next millennium? Under what circumstances can environmental and economic goals both be achieved? Is it possible to achieve a high global standard of living without degrading the environment? What ethical considerations should determine how economic and environmental policies are perceived and regulated? Middlebury's chairs of economics and environmental studies will bring their different perspectives to a free-ranging discussion of these and other questions as the class attempts to draw a global map of the future.

6. Birds

Bruce Peterson, College Professor, Mathematics and Computer Science

No animals fascinate us as birds do. They occur as powerful symbols like the sacred ibis of Egypt, the dove of peace, or the phoenix rising from the ashes. They are sources of inspiration in the arts: the poetry of Dickinson and Whitman, the prose of Thoreau and Darwin, the music of Vivaldi and Vaughan-Williams, and the art of Audubon and Fuertes. We will interweave the esthetic and the scientific as we consider the place of birds in the arts along with their evolution, courtship practices, breeding, behavior, and ecology. And we will walk, talk, and meet the birds of the late Vermont summer.





FACULTY

Glenn Andres has taught the history of architecture and urbanism at Middlebury since 1970. Glenn has been a frequent, and highly popular contributor to Alumni College, whether in the classroom, on walking tours, or combining a study of Vermont architecture with bicycling across the "bridges of Addison County." The author of *A Walking History of Middlebury*, he is currently working on a volume of Vermont architecture for the *Buildings of the United States* series sponsored by the Society of Architectural Historians.

Robert Hill was an inaugural professor at Middlebury's first alumni college, and is one of the regular college's most committed teachers. Don't be put off by the dark undertone to his course description; there is always laughter, along with passionate discussion, in a Bob Hill class. Bob regularly teaches 19th century novel, and has published works on Tennyson, Henry James, Yeats, and Frost. A second edition of his *Tennyson's Poetry* is being published by Norton and should be available this summer.

John Hunisak has taught at Middlebury since 1970. His first visit to Alumni College was in 1978, and he has made several encore visits since then. John's scholarship has focused on 18th to 20th century art, as well as the Italian renaissance and baroque art. Students taking their first Hunisak class will discover that he possesses a remarkable talent for transmitting his passion for great art to his students. John is co-author, with Glenn Andres and Richard Turner, of *The Art of Florence* (Abbeville Press, 1988).

Michelle McCauley, who joined the Middlebury faculty in 1995, is teaching her first Alumni College course. Besides teaching a highly successful seminar on the same topic, legal psychology is her research specialty. Her current research focuses on improving child eyewitnesses' memory and assessing adults' perceptions of child victims in the courts. Michelle currently is editing a book on international perspectives of child abuse.

Bruce Peterson '56 has taught mathematics at Middlebury for 36 years, and has served in a number of key administrative positions at the College, including provost. Bruce also was the first director of Alumni College. As one would expect of a Middlebury alumnus, Bruce's interests, and expertise extend beyond mathematics, most notably to a love of the outdoors and the study of birds. A professional field ornithologist, he teaches a first-year seminar on birds that is the model for his Alumni College course.

Sunder Ramaswamy, chair of the economics department, joined the Middlebury faculty in 1990. His scholarly specialties are international economics and the economics of developing countries. In addition to his academic research, Sunder has worked with USAID (United States Agency for International Development) projects on agricultural development in Sub-Saharan Africa and is currently engaged in a joint Reserve Bank of India-World Bank project on Indian economic reform. This is Sunder's third visit to Alumni College where his clear and well-balanced presentations have made him a favorite of students of diverse political and economic views.

Stephen Trombulak, chair of the biology department, and director of environmental studies. Since coming to Middlebury in 1985, Steve has been a leading figure in revitalizing Middlebury's environmental studies program. His research on strategies for the conservation of biodiversity has produced numerous publications on the application of conservation principles to public policy. Steve has served on Vermont and interstate committees relating to the future of forestry in New England and has worked with non-governmental groups to implement conservation strategies.

Russell J. Leng '60, professor of political science, serves as academic director of Alumni College.

SPECIAL EVENTS

"Once in a Blue Moon" Cabaret
Cathy Walsh, former director of student activities
Emory Fanning, professor emeritus of music and College organist
Friday evening, September 4

Banquet and Student Acapella Group
Saturday evening, September 5

REGISTRATION FORM

23RD ALUMNI COLLEGE / SEPTEMBER 2-6, 1998

Please reserve a place for me

_____Class_____

and a place for my spouse/guest _____

Address_____

_____

Phone_____

My first choice is #____ My second choice is #____

Spouse/guest first choice is #___ Spouse/guest second choice is #___

Special housing needs?_____

_____

Fees

$450–all-inclusive cost per person (tuition, books, lodging, meals, and evening entertainment at Bread Loaf).

Method of payment

Check payable to Middlebury College enclosed

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card number_____ Expiration date_____

Cardholder's name_____

Cardholder's signature_____

Please send form with payment to:
Alumni and Parent Programs Office
Kirk Alumni Center
Middlebury College
Middlebury, VT 05753

Reservation deadline: August 21 • No refunds after August 21

Need more information, including child care options?
Contact Nellie Morison in the alumni and parent programs office
at (802) 443-5183 fax: (802) 443-2082
email: morison@jaguar.middlebury.edu